

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

ACDA-07 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CU-02 DHA-02 IO-13 /076 W

-----162324Z 101947 /70

O R 162145Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1051

INFO CSCE CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 4069

FOR EUR/RPM

FROM USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: JUNE 16 PLENARY

SUMMARY: SOVIET TOOK MODERATE LINE AT SECOND WORKING SESSION OF BELGRADE CSCE PREPARATORY MEETING JUNE 16, PROMISING TO WORK IN BUSINESSLIKE FASHION TO LAY FOUNDATION FOR CONSTRUCTIVE MAIN MEETING. THEY ASKED FOR MORE TIME, HOWEVER, TO CONSIDER DRAFT PREPARATORY MEETING AGENDA PROPOSED BY SPAIN WHICH, EXCEPT FOR EASTERN BLOC, HAS ATTRACTED WIDE SUPPORT. NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNEDS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION THAT U.K. AND U.S. HAVE INTRODUCED COMPREHENSIVE DRAFT DECISION SHEET ON ORGANIZATION OF MAIN MEETING, AND GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH MAJOR POINTS, BUT INDICATED DESIRE TO REWORK A NUMBER OF DETAILS. OUTLOOK IS FAIRLY GOOD TO MOVE INTO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON BASIS OF U.K./U.S. DRAFT EARLY WEEK OF JUNE 20. END SUMMARY.

1. INITIAL INTERVENTION BY SOVIET REP (VORONTSOV) JUNE

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16 INCLUDED FOLLOWING MAJOR THEMES: PREPARATORY MEETING SHOULD STICK TO FINAL ACT MANDATE, NAMELY TO DECIDE ON DATE, DURATION, AGENDA, AND OTHER MODALITIES; FOCUS OF MAIN MEETING SHOULD BE ON FUTURE, NO PAST, AND IT SHOULD REACH AGREEMENT ON SOME CONCRETE NEW PROPOSALS; IT SHOULD BE BUSINESSLIKE, CONSTRUCTIVE, AND NON-POLEMICAL. (FULL TEXT BY SEPTTEL.) IMMEDIATELY

AFTER SESSION CONCLUDED, SOVIET DEL BRIEFED PRESS ON VORONTSOV'S STATEMENT. NEITHER IN PLENARY INTERVENTION NOR PRESS BRIEFING DID SOVIETS GIVE ANY INDICATION THAT SOVIETS WOULD PRESS FOR AGREEMENT ON "POLITICAL CONCEPT" THAT WOULD LIMIT DEBATE AT MAIN MEETING. FACT THAT SOVIETS BRIEFED PRESS SO QUICKLY SUGGESTS THAT SOVIETS, LIKE WE AND ALLIES, APPRECIATE IMPORTANT MEDIA ROLE AT BELGRADE.

2. AGENDA FOR PREPARATORY MEETING PROPOSED BY SPAIN ON JUNE 15 (REFTEL) DREW FAVORABLE COMMENTS FROM NORWAY, ROMANIA, SWEDEN, AUSTRIA, PORTUGAL, GREECE, SAN MARINO, AND FRG. LATTER PROPOSED MEETING ADOPT SPANISH AGENDA, BUT SOVIETS ASKED FOR MORE TIME SAYING THAT THEY WELCOMED BUSINESSLIKE APPROACH DELEGATIONS WERE TAKING, BUT THAT AGREEMENT ON AGENDA IS IMPORTANT MATTER AND THAT THEY NEEDED TO CONSIDER LEGAL ASPECTS OF SPANISH DRAFT AND IN PARTICULAR WHETHER IT IS COMPLETELY CONSISTENT WITH FINAL ACT. THEY STRESSED THAT THEY REGARDED ADOPTION OF AGENDA AS PRECEDENT FOR WORK OF REST OF MEETING AND THAT IT THEREFORE ESSENTIAL THAT AGENDA BE IN EXACT CORRESPONDENCE WITH FINAL ACT. SOVIETS INDICATED THEY HOPE TO BE ABLE TO TAKE POSITION AT NEXT PLENARY JUNE 17, AM.

3. COMMENT: ALLIES AND NEUTRALS ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT SPANISH DRAFT AGENDA AS A MEANS OF MOVING TO SUBSTANTIVE WORK. HOWEVER, SPANISH DRAFT DIFFERS FROM FINAL ACT BY REVERSING ORDER OF ITEMS, TO BE DISCUSSED BY PREPARATORY MEETING, PUTTING DATE AND DURATION LAST. CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS WOULD BE A LOGICAL ORDER FOR DISCUSSION, BUT WE SUSPECT SOVIETS MAY WISH TO MAKE DATE AND DURATION FIRST SUBSTANTIVE ITEM ON AGENDA, AS IT APPEARS IN FINAL TEXT, IN ORDER TO SEEK EARLY AGREEMENT ON A TERMINAL DATE FOR THE MAIN MEETING. WE CAN, OF COURSE, ALSO ACCEPT THIS ORDER OF WORK, SINCE IT CORRESPONDS TO ORDER IN ROUGH DRAFT DECISION SHEET. END COMMENT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 4069

4. U.K., U.S., NORWAY, PORTUGAL, AND GREECE SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF U.K./U.S. DRAFT DECISION SHEET. SPANISH SAID THERE WAS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN U.K./U.S. PROPOSAL AND THEIR OWN, SINCE FORMER COINCIDED WITH AND SUPPLEMENTED LATTER. OTHER NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNEDS, INCLUDING SWEDEN AND AUSTRIA, WELCOMED U.K. ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE FRAMEWORK FOR SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF PREPARATORY MEETING BUT SAID THEY WOULD NEED MORE TIME TO STUDY IT BEFORE THEY COULD MAKE DETAILED COMMENTS. IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS, SWEDES AND FINNS EXPRESSED BROAD AGREEMENT WITH MANY PORTIONS OF PAPER, WHILE INDICATING THAT THERE ARE POINTS OF DETAIL WHERE THEY WILL DESIRE CHANGES. FINNISH AMBASSADOR, FOR EXAMPLE, EXPRESSED SOME UNHAPPINESS THAT ANNEX II GOES INTO SUCH EXPLICIT DETAIL ON PROCEDURAL VARIATIONS FROM HELSINKI BLUE BOOK SUCH AS SPECIFYING THAT INFORMAL GROUPS MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED WHICH WOULD BE CHAIRED BY A "COORDINATOR." EASTERN BLOC HAS NOT YET GIVEN HINT OF ITS POSITION ON SUBSTANCE OF U.K. DRAFT, BUT INDICATIONS SO FAR ARE THAT THERE IS FAIR CHANCE OF FOCUSING SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF INDIVIDUAL ITEMS ON U.K. DRAFT ONCE AGENDA IS ADOPTED.

5. U.K. GAINED A DRAW IN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE RECOGNITION
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OF ITS ROLE AS PRESIDENCY OF EC. CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT REFUSED TO CIRCULATE DRAFT DECISION SHEET EXPLICITLY INDICATING THAT PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY U.K. ON BEHALF OF EC, BUT BRITISH GOT OVER THIS BY ACCEPTING OUR SUGGESTION THAT THEY REFER PARENTHETICALLY TO THEIR EC ROLE BELOW TITLE OF PAPER. U.K. ON POINT OF ORDER EXPLAINED FOR THE RECORD THAT IT REGARDED THIS AS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION AND THAT IT WOULD MAINTAIN ITS REQUEST FOR SECRETARIAT TO REFER TO EC PRESIDENCY ON U.K. DELEGATION NAME PLATE. HUNGARY AND ROMANIA EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO CHANGING HELSINKI PROCEDURE, AND MATTER WAS LEFT HANGING.

U.K. TOLD US THAT EC-9 WAS SATISFIED WITH HAVING PUT ITS
POINT ON RECORD, AND MATTER WILL PROBABLY BE LEFT
UNRESOLVED BY TACIT MUTUAL CONSENT.

6. WE GAVE SOVIETS ADVANCE COPY OF AMBASSADOR'S INTERVEN-
TION ON DRAFT DECISION SHEET, AND SOVIETS RECIPROCATED
WITH ADVANCE TEXT OF VORONTSOV STATEMENT. TEXTS BEING
TRANSMITTED BY SEPTELS.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: MPOL, CSCE
To: STATE
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vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2a11077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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